

At the thirty-first annual convention of the Insular Congress of the United States began in this city to-day. A discussion of legislation providing for the creation in every State of the office of fire marshal was discussed by James B. Young, commissioner for North Carolina, who spoke in favor of the proposed meas-

loss of the mines would involve the cutting off of the coal supply for the whole of the Manchurian Railway. Nevertheless it is considered more than doubtful if General Kurapatkin will make a decisive stand south of Tie Pass.

September 20.—The following dispatch has been received from General Kurapatkin: